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(54) **5,11-Dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2',3'-e] [1,4]diazepines and their use in the prevention or treatment of HIV infection.**

(57) Disclosed are novel 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b; 2',3'-e][1,4]diazepines. These are useful in the prevention or treatment of HIV infection.

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5,11-DIHYDRO-6H-DIPYRIDO[3,2-B:2',3'-E][1,4]DIAZEPINES AND THEIR USE IN THE PREVENTION OR TREATMENT OF HIV INFECTION

Field of the Invention

The invention relates to novel 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2',3'-e][1,4]diazepines and pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts thereof, methods for preparing thesecompounds, the use of these compounds in the prevention or treatment of HIV infection, andto pharmaceutical compositions containing these compounds.

Background of the Invention

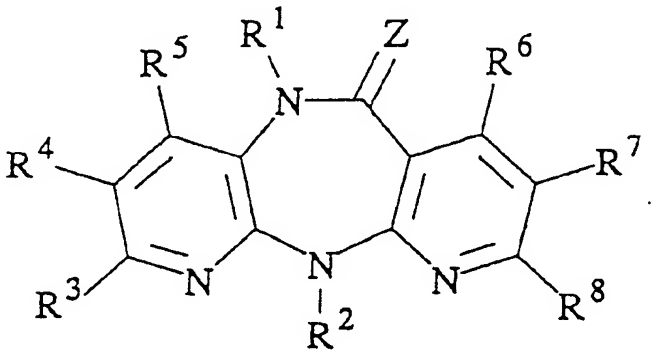
The human disease, Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS), is caused by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), particularly the strain known as HIV-1.

Like other viruses, HIV-1 cannot replicate without commandeering the biosynthetic apparatus of the host cell it infects. It causes this apparatus to produce the structural proteins which make up the viral progeny. These proteins are coded for by the genetic material contained within the infecting virus particle, or virion. Being a retrovirus, however, the genetic material of HIV is RNA, not DNA as in the host cell's genome. Accordingly, the viral RNA must first be converted into DNA, and then integrated into the host cell's genome, in order for the host cell to produce the required viral proteins. The conversion of the RNA to DNA is accomplished through the use of the enzyme reverse transcriptase (RT), which is included within the infecting virion along with the RNA. Reverse transcriptase has three enzymatic functions; it acts as an RNA-dependent DNA polymerase, as a ribonuclease, and as a DNA-dependent DNA polymerase. Acting first as an RNA-dependent DNA polymerase, RT makes a single-stranded DNA copy of the viral RNA. Next, acting as a ribonuclease, RT frees the DNA just produced from the original viral RNA and then destroys the original RNA. Finally, acting as a DNA-dependent DNA polymerase, RT makes a second, complementary DNA strand, using the first DNA strand as a template. The two strands from double-stranded DNA, which is integrated into the host cell's genome by another enzyme called an integrase.

Compounds which inhibit the enzymatic functions of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase will inhibit replication of HIV-1 in infected cells. Such compounds are useful in the prevention or treatment of HIV-1 infection in human subjects.

Description of the Invention

In one of its composition of matter aspects, the invention comprises 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyridol[3,2-b:2',3'-e][1,4]diazepines of the formula I



(I)

wherein,

Z is oxygen, sulfur, =NCN or a group of the formula =NOR^9 wherein R^9 is alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and 1 to 3 fluorine atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, mono- or di-halovinyl, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, aminoethyl,

mono- or di-alkylaminoethyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyloxy- or alkynyloxycarbonyl wherein each alkenyl or alkynyl moiety contains 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxy, alkyloxy of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, aminocarbonylmethyl, or cyanoalkyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^2 is hydrogen (with the proviso that R^1 is not hydrogen), alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and 1 to 3 fluorine atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, oxetanyl, thietanyl, tetrahydrofuranyl or tetrahydrothienyl, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, cyano, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkyloxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms;

one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminocarbonyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), a group of the formula $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido or carboxyl, with the other two substituents being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,

two of R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently alkyl or hyroxyalkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen or a group of the formula $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen or methyl; or,

R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each hydrogen;

one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, a group of the formula $-NR^{12}R^{13}$, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido or carboxyl, with the other two substituents being hydrogen; or,

two of R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen or a group of the fomrula $-NR^{12}R^{13}$, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen; or,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen; and,

R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenylmethyl or alkynylmethyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), mono- or dihydroxyalkylmethyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxy, alkyloxyethyl or alkylthioethyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms, aminoalkylmethyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or dialkylaminoalkylmethyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, or alkanoyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms; or,

R^{10} and R^{11}, and R^{12} and R^{13}, together with the nitrogen atoms between them, respectively and independently form azetidin-1-yl or a 5, 6 or 7-membered ring which is either saturated or unsaturated, which optionally contains up to one additional heteroatom which may be selected from O, S or N, or which optionally contains in place of a carbon atom a group of the formula $=NR^{14}$ wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, and which ring is optionally and independently substituted with hydroxymethyl, aminomethyl, 1 to 4 methyl groups and 1 to 2 hydroxy groups;

subject to the proviso that when

a) Z is oxygen or sulphur

b) R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkinyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, phenyl (optionally substituted by alkyl or alkoxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkoxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

c) i) R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen or
ii) one of R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 or 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkoxy or alkylthio of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of up to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, amino, aminoalkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido, or carboxyl, and the remaining five of R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen, or
iii) R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each independently hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided at least one is hydrogen, or one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is butyl with the remaining two being hydrogen and R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided at least one is hydrogen, or
one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is butyl with the remaining two being hydrogen,
then R^1 cannot be
hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkinyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), alkanoyl containing 2 or 3 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthio alkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms;
and compounds of formula I wherein Z is oxygen and
i) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl and either
R^7 is azido, amino or nitro and R^3 to R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^3 is ethylamino or diethylamino and R^4 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^6 and R^8 are methyl and R^3 to R^5 and R^7 are hydrogen, or
R^3 and R^4 are methyl and R^5 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^5 is methyl and R^3, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
ii) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl, t-butyl, s-butyl or isopropyl and R^3 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
iii) R^1 and R^2 are methoxymethyl, R^5 is methyl and R^3, R^4 and R^6, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
iv) R^1 is hydrogen, R^2 is ethyl and R^3 to R^8 are hydrogen;
and compounds of Formula I wherein Z is sulfur and either a) R^2 is ethyl, R^3 and R^5 are both methyl and R^1, R^4 and R^6 to R^8 are hydrogen, or b) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl, R^3 is methoxy and R^4 to R^8 are hydrogen.

A subgeneric aspect of the invention comprises compounds of formula I, wherein,
Z is oxygen, sulfur or a group of the formula $=NOR^9$ wherein R^9 is alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms;
R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, cyclopropyl, alkenylmethyl or alkynylmethyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, alkanoyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cyanoalkyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
R^2 is hydrogen (with the proviso that R^1 is not hydrogen), alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, oxetanyl, thietanyl, alkenylmethyl or alkynylmethyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkyloxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms;
one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolid-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the other two substituents being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,
two of R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-

yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,

R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each hydrogen;

one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, vinyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the other two substituents being hydrogen; or,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen.

A particular subgeneric aspect of the invention comprises compounds of formula I wherein,

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms or allyl;

R^2 is alkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cycloalkyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, chloro, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, allylamino, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, or N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino;

R^4 is hydrogen, methyl or chloro;

R^5 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, chloro, or trifluoromethyl;

R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen; and

R^7 is hydrogen or amino.

A more particular subgeneric aspect of the invention comprises compounds of formula I wherein,

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms or allyl;

R^2 is alkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cycloalkyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, chloro, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, allylamino, allylmethylamino, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl or morpholin-1-yl;

R^4 is hydrogen;

R^5 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, chloro, or trifluoromethyl;

R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen; and

R^7 is hydrogen or amino.

Preferred compounds of formula I are:

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

2-chloro-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or- thione;

2-chloro-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

8-amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

8-amino-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′- e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′--e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′--e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

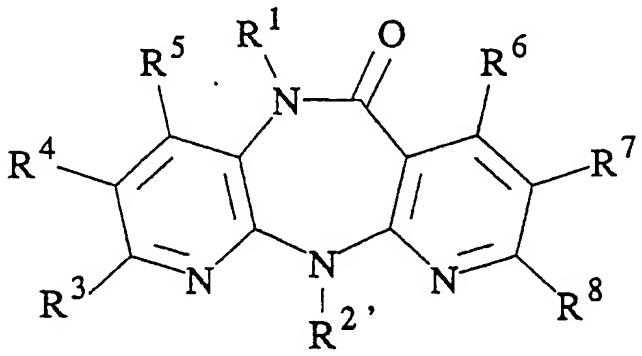
or -thione;
8-amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione; and,
8-amino-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one or -thion.

Synthesis Of Compounds Of Formula I And Their Salts

The compounds of Formula I and their salts can be prepared by known methods or obvious modifications thereof. Methods A-H, described below, are illustrative of the methods for preparing the compounds.

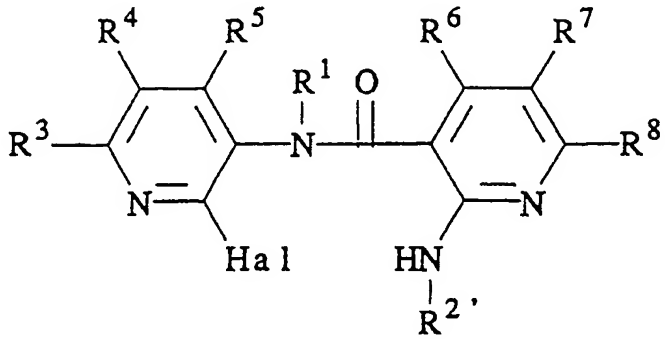
Method A

Compounds of the formula Ia



(Ia)

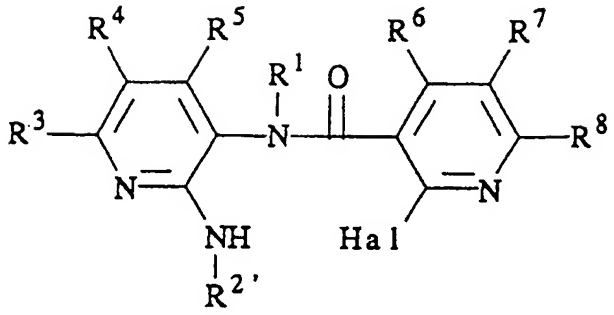
wherein R^1 and R^3 through R^8 are defined as above and $R^{2'}$ has the same definitions as R^2 with the exception of hydrogen, can be obtained by cyclizing carboxylic acid amides of formula II,



(II)

wherein R^1, R^3 through R^8 and $R^{2'}$ have the same definitions set forth with respect to Formula Ia and Hal represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

A variant of this method, which is preferably used to prepare compounds of formula Ia wherein R^6, R^7, or R^8, especially R^7, are electron withdrawing groups, such as nitro, involves cyclizing carboxylic acid amides of formula IIa,



(IIa)

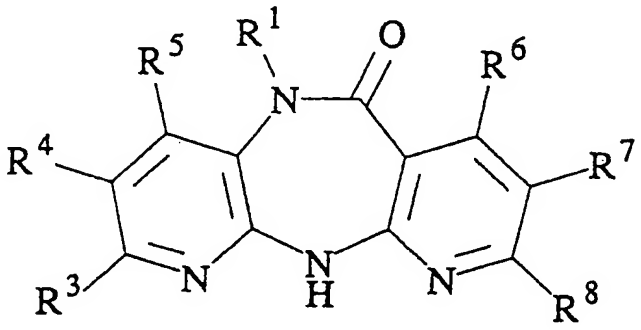
wherein R^3 through R^8 are defined as above and $R^{2'}$ has the same definitions as R^2 with the exception of hydrogen, and Hal represents fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

Cyclization is conveniently carried out by the conversion of compounds of formula II or IIa into their alkaline metal salts and subsequent condensation at temperatures between 0 °C and the boiling point of the reaction mixture. If, in the starting compounds of formula II or IIa, R^1 is different from hydrogen, metallation requires at least 1 mole of the metallating agent. If, on the other hand, R^1 is hydrogen, at least 2 moles of this agent must be used. For metallation, lithium, sodium and potassium hydrides or lithium alkyls, such as n-butyl lithium, are preferably used.

The cyclization reaction is usually carried out in inert solvents, e.g. in tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, glycoldimethyl ether, diethylene-glycoldimethyl ether, triethyleneglycoldimethyl ether, dimethylformamide, benzene or anisole. Cyclization may also be effected by heating carboxylic acid amides of formula II or IIa in dipolar aprotic solvents, preferably in sulfolane or dimethylsulfone. Catalytic quantities of strong acids, e.g. sulfuric acid, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, phosphoric acid, polyphosphoric acid, methanesulfonic acid or p-toluenesulfonic acid, have proved to be of use. The necessary reaction temperature is usually between 110 and 220 °C.

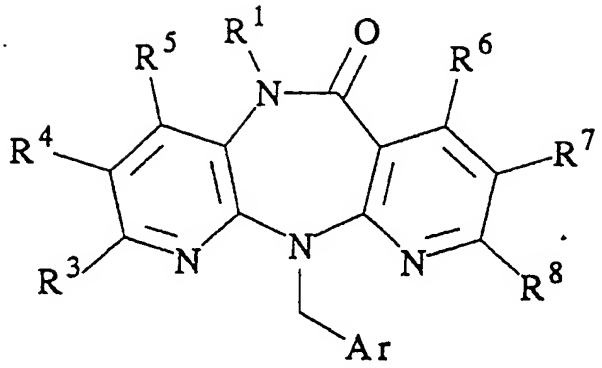
Method B

Compounds of formula Ib



(Ib)

wherein R^1 and R^3 through R^8 are defined as above, can be prepared by hydrolytic cleavage of the arylmethyl group in compounds of formula III,



(III)

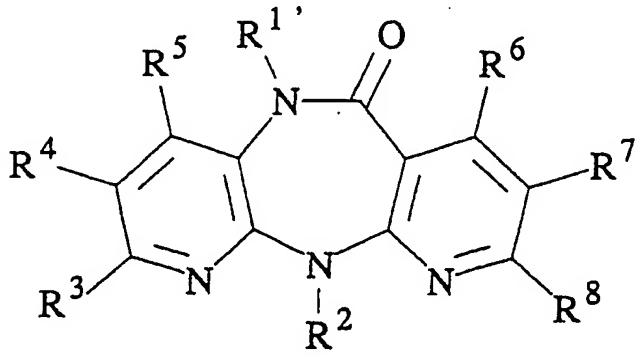
wherein R^1 and R^3 through R^8 are defined as mentioned above and Ar can be, for example, a phenyl or 4-methoxyphenyl group. Hydrolysis is effected by moderate to strong acids or Lewis-acids at temperatures between -20 and +150°C. Such acids can be, for example, sulfuric acid, methanesulfonic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, trifluoromethanesulfonic acid, phosphoric or polyphosphoric acid. When using phosphoric or polyphosphoric acid, the addition of solvents such as benzene, toluene, phenol, anisole or veratrole has proved to be of advantage.

If Lewis acids, such as aluminum chloride or bromide are used to eliminate the arylmethyl group, solvents such as aromatic hydrocarbons, e.g. benzene, toluene, anisole, or mixtures thereof with dichloromethane are suitable.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that Method B is not preferred in those cases wherein any of R^1 and R^3 through R^8 are readily hydrolyzable substituents, for example, wherein R^1 is alkanoyl or any R^3 through R^8 are alkanoylamino or alkoxycarbonyl. In cases wherein R^1 is alkanoyl or any of R^3 through R^8 are alkoxycarbonyl, for example, it is preferable to utilize method A described above; when R^1 is hydrogen two equivalents of base must be used. In cases wherein any of R^3 through R^8 are alkanoylamino, for example, it is preferable to carry out the hydrolysis (and subsequent acylation) on the corresponding nitro derivative, and then reduce the nitro molety to the amine, followed by acylation to yield the desired product.

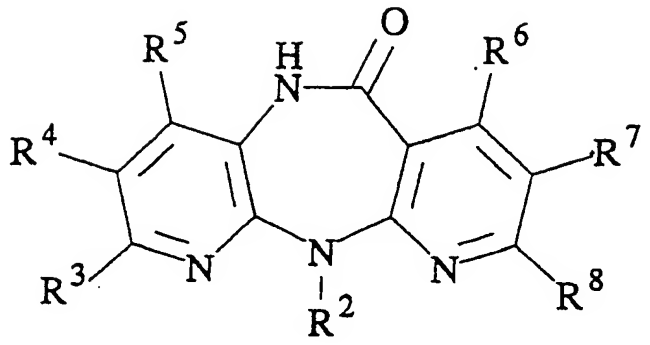
Method C

A compound of formula Ic



(Ic)

wherein $R^{1'}$ has the same definitions as R^1 with the exception of hydrogen and R^2 through R^8 are defined as above, may be obtained by converting a 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one of the formula IV



(IV)

wherein R^2 through R^8 are defined as above, into the corresponding 5-alkali or alkaline earth metal compound and subsequently reacting the alkali metal compound with a compound of the formula V

$RR^{1'}X$ (V)

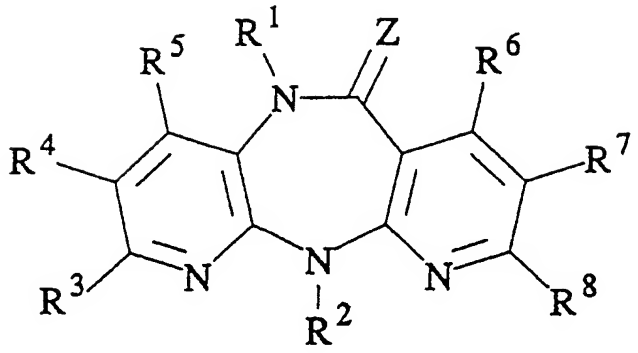
wherein $^{1'}$ has the same meanings as in formula Ic and X is the radical of a reactive ester, a halogen atom, the group $OSO_2OR^{1'}$, the methanesulfonyloxy or ethanesulfonyloxy group or an aromatic sulfonyloxy group. Instead of converting the compound of the formula IV into its corresponding alkali metal salt in the first step, the alkylation of a compound of formula IV may also be performed by reaction with a compound of formula V in the presence of amines, such as triethylamine, diazabicycloundecene or 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine, or of alkali carbonates or bicarbonates, such as sodium and potassium or sodium bicarbonate.

The conversion of a compound of formula IV into the corresponding alkali metal or alkaline earth metal compound may be effected by reacting a compound of formula IV with an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal hydroxide, such as lithium hydroxide, barium hydroxide, sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide, with an alkali metal alcoholate, such as sodium methoxide or potassium tert-butoxide, with an alkali metal amide, such as sodium amide or potassium amide, or with an alkali metal hydride such as sodium hydride or potassium hydride. The reaction is preferably carried out at elevated temperatures and in the presence of a suitable organic solvent. Inert organic solvents, such as dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran or glycoldimethyl ether are preferred if alkali metal hydrides are used as the metallating agents, whereas, if an alkali or alkaline earth metal hydroxide is used, an aqueous mixture with an organic solvent, such as methanol or tetrahydrofuran, may also be employed. For conversion of the alkali or alkaline earth metal-substituted 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazipin-6-one thus obtained into a compound of general formula Ic, the solution or suspension of the alkali or alkaline earth metal compound is reacted directly, i.e. without isolation, with a compound of formula V at -20° C or at elevated temperatures, up to the boiling point of the solvent or reaction medium, whichever is lower. The substitution takes place almost exclusively at the nitrogen atom in the 5-position of the dihydro-dipyridodiazepinone, even if R^2 in the starting material of formula IV is a hydrogen atom, provided that one equivalent of base and one equivalent of a compound of formula V are used.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that the presence of nucleophilic substituents in the compounds of formula Ic may require the use of an intermediate of formula Ic having substituents which are, other than the 11-position nitrogen, not nucleophilic but which can be derivatized to yield the required group. For example, amino or monoalkylamino substituents at any of R^3 through R^8 are preferably obtained by alkylating or acylating an intermediate of formula Ic having an nitro group at any of R^3 through R^8, and subsequently reducing the nitro group, and alkylating, if appropriate, to yield the final product.

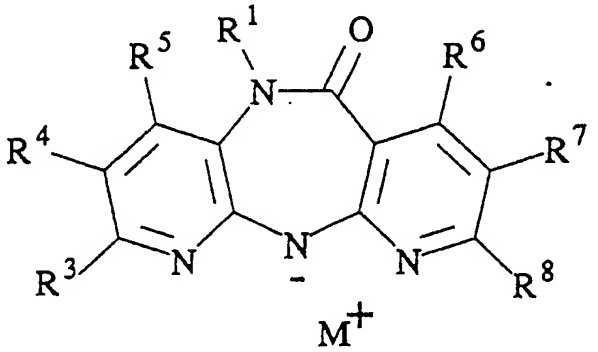
Method D

A compound of formula I

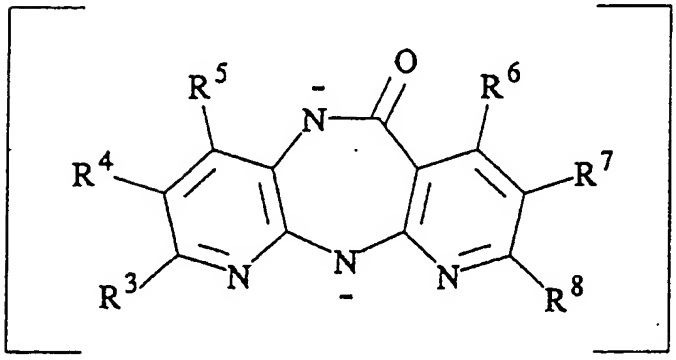


(I)

wherein Z is oxygen and R^1 through R^8 represents the groups mentioned above, can be obtained by converting a 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one of formula Ib, as described above, into the corresponding metal salt of formula VIa or - in the case of R^1 in the compound of formula Ib being hydrogen - into a compound of formula VIb



(VIa)



(VIb)

wherein M represents an alkali metal, such as lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium or cesium, or M represents the group MgHal+, wherein Hal is a chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, and subsequently alkylating with a compound of formula VII

R^2X (VII)

wherein R^2 and X are as hereinbefore defined.

The conversion of a compound of formula Ib into the corresponding alkali metal compound of formulae VIa or VIb may be effected by reacting a compound of formula Ib with a lithium alkyl (e.g. n-butyl lithium, or t-butyl lithium) optionally in the presence of tetramethylethylenediamine, a lithium dialkylamide, (e.g. lithium diisopropylamide, lithium dicyclohexylamide and lithium isopropyl-cyclohexylamide), a lithium aryl (e.g.

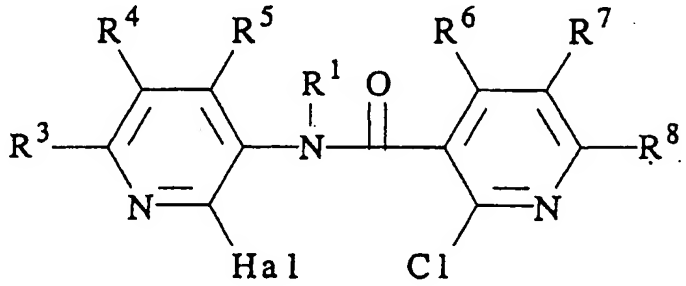
phenyl lithium), an alkali metal hydroxide (e.g. lithium, sodium, or potassium hydroxide), an alkali metal hydride (e.g. sodium or potassium hydride), an alkali metal amide (e.g. sodium or potassium amides) or a Grignard reagent (e.g. methyl magnesium iodide, ethyl magnesium bromide or phenyl magnesium bromide). One equivalent of base is required for the formation of compounds of formula VIa, whereas two equivalents of base are required for the formation of compounds of formula VIb. The metallation is conveniently carried out in an inert organic solvent at temperatures of between -78 °C and the boiling point of the reaction mixture in question. If a lithium alkyl, lithium aryl, lithium dialkylamide or Grignard reagent is used for the metallation, the preferred solvents are ethers such as tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether or dioxane, optionally in a mixture with aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbons, such as hexane or benzene, and the operation may be carried out at temperatures of between -20 and +80 °C. When metallation is effected with an alkali metal hydride or alkali or alkali metal amide, in addition to the solvents mentioned hereinbefore it is also possible to use xylene, toluene, acetonitrile, dimethylformamide and dimethylsulfoxide, while if an alkali metal hydroxide is used it is also possible to use alcohols such as ethanol, methanol and aliphatic ketones such as acetone, as well as mixtures of these solvents with water.

For conversion of the alkali metal salt thus obtained into a compound of formula I, the solution or suspension of the alkali metal compound is reacted directly, i.e. without isolation of the reaction product, with a compound of formula VII at temperatures of between -20 ° and the boiling point of the reaction mixture, preferably at room temperature.

It will be obvious of those skilled in the art that the presence of nucleophilic subsituents in the compounds of formula I may require the use of an intermediate of formula I having substituents which are, other than the 11-position nitrogen, not nucleophilic but which can be derivatized to yield the required group. For example, amino or monoalkylamino substituents at any of R^3 through R^8 are preferably obtained by alkylating or acylating an intermediate of formula Ic having an nitro group at any of R^3 through R^8, and subsequently reducing the nitro group, and alkylating, if appropriate, to yield the final product.

Starting Materials For Methods A-D

The carboxylic acid amides of formula II used as starting materials are obtained, for example, by amination of 2-chloro-nicotinic acid amides of formula VIII



(VIII)

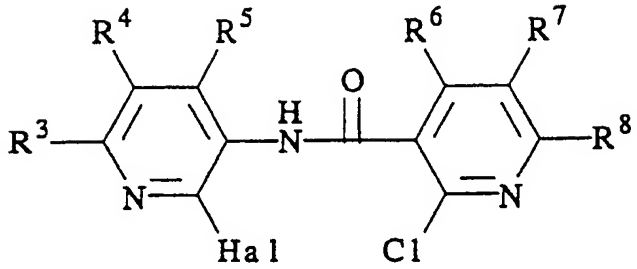
wherein R^1 through R^8 and Hal are as hereinbefore defined, with primary amines of formula IX

$H_2N\text{-}R^{2'}$ (IX)

wherein $R^{2'}$ is as hereinbefore defined. The reaction can also be carried out in the presence in organic or organic auxiliary bases, such as triethylamine, N,N-dimethylaniline, or sodium or potassium carbonate. The reaction can be carried out without using a solvent; it is of some advantage, however, to use inert organic solvents at temperatures of between 0 °C and 175 °C, preferably at reflux temperature. Suitable inert solvents that can be used include an excess of the primary amine of general formula IX, open chain or cyclic ethers, such as tetrahydrofuran, 1,4-dioxane, glycoldimethyl ether, diethyleneglycoldimethyl ether; aromatic hydrocarbons, such as benzene, toluene, xylene, chlorobenzene or pyridine; alcohols such as methanol, ethanol, isopropanol; dipolar aprotic solvents such as dimethylformamide; 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, 1,3-dimethyl-tetrahydro-2(1H)-pyrimidinone and sulfolane.

Carboxylic acid amides of formula IIa can be prepared by condensation of an appropriately substituted 2-chloronicotinic acid chloride with an appropriately substituted 3-amino-2-(alkylamino)pyridine, under well known reaction conditions.

Starting materials of formula VIII, wherein R^1 is different from hydrogen, can be prepared from 2-chloronicotinic acid amides of formula X



(X)

by reaction with alkylating agents of formula V in the presence of proton acceptors, for example of amines, such as triethylamine, diazabicycloundecene, 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine, or alkali or alkaline earth metal hydroxides, such as sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, calcium hydroxide, of alkali carbonates, or alkaline earth metal carbonates or hydrogen carbonates, such as sodium carbonate or potassium carbonate, or potassium hydrogen carbonate.

2-Chloronicotinic acid amides of general formula X can be obtained by condensation of an appropriately substituted 2-chloronicotinic acid chloride with an appropriately substituted 3-amino-2-halopyridine, under well known reaction conditons.

All the other starting materials are known from the literature or may be purchased or may be obtained by procedures known from the literature.

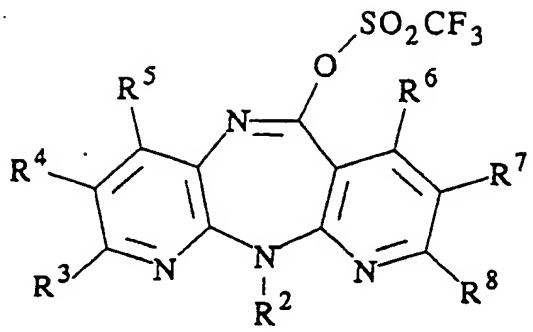
Method E

In Method E, a compound of Formula I, wherein Z is sulfur, is obtained by reacting a compound of Formula I, wherein Z is oxygen, with a sulfurating agent, such as 2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithia-2,4-diphosphetane-2,4-disulfide; bis(tricyclohexyltin)sulfide; bis(tri-n-butylin)sulfide; bis(tri-phenyltin)sulfide; bis-(trimethylsilyl)sulfide or phosphorous pentasulfide. The reaction is carried out in an inert organic solvent such as carbon disulfide, benzene or toluene, at room temperature or higher, preferably at an elevated temperature up to the boiling point of the reaction mixture, and preferably under anhydrous conditions. When using the above mentioned tin or silyl sulfides, it is preferable to carry out the sulfurization reaction in the presence of a Lewis acid such as boron trichloride.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that the presence of another carbonyl moiety in a compound of formula I, for example, a compound wherein Z is oxygen and any of R^3 through R^8 is alkanoyl, will require that the ketone carbonyl be protected via known methods by a suitable protecting group prior to the sulfurization reaction; deprotection subsequent to the sulfurization reaction provides the desired compound. Similarly, in cases wherein R^2 is, for example, alkanoyl, it will be obvious that the sulfurization reaction is best performed prior to the acylation of the 11-position nitrogen. In those cases wherein the substituents at any of R^3 through R^8 can be derived from nitro, for example, alkanoylamino, the sulfurization reaction can be performed on the corresponding nitro derivative, followed by an appropriate (known) reduction and finally acylation to yield the desired product.

Method F

Compounds of formula I, wherein R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 through R^8 are as defined above and Z is a group of formula =NCN, can be obtained by reacting a compound of the formula XI



(XI)

wherein R^2 through R^8 are as defined above, with cyanamide. The reaction is carried out in the presence of a base such as potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, triethylamine, or diisopropylethylamine, and in an inert solvent such as methylene chloride, 1,4-dioxane, tetrahydrofuran, diethylether, chloroform, or dimethylformamide at a temperature between 0 °C up to the boiling point of the reaction mixture.

Method G

Compounds of formula I, wherein R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 through R^8 are as defined above and Z is a group of formula $=NOR^9$, can be obtained, in a manner analogous to that of Method F, by reacting a compound of formula XI, wherein R^2 through R^8 are as defined above with the appropriate alkoxylamine (*O*-alkylhydroxylamine) or their salts (for example, methoxylamine hydrochloride). The reaction is carried out under conditions analogous to those described for the treatment of compounds of formula XI with cyanamide.

Starting Materials For Methods F and G

Compounds of the formula XI wherein R^2 through R^8 are as defined above, can be obtained by reacting a compound of formula I, wherein R^1 is hydrogen, R^2 through R^8 are as defined above and Z is oxygen, with trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride. The reaction is preferably carried out in an inert solvent using one to two equivalents of trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride and in the presence of one to two equivalents of a base. The base may be, for example, a tertiary amine such as triethylamine or diisopropylethylamine, and the inert solvent used may include, for example, methylene chloride, chloroform, diethylether, tetrahydrofuran, or toluene. Addition of the reagents is generally carried out at or below ambient temperature, and the mixture is then allowed to react, at or near room temperature.

The alkoxylamine starting materials may be purchased or are known from the literature or may be obtained by procedures known from the literature.

Formation Of Salts And Other Derivatives

Compounds of formula I may, if desired, be converted into their non-toxic, pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts by conventional methods; for example, by dissolving a compound of formula I in a suitable solvent and acidifying the solution with one or more molar equivalents of the desired acid. The invention also comprises such salts.

Examples of inorganic and organic acids which may form nontoxic, pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts with a compound of the formula I are the following: hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid, nitric acid, methanesulfonic acid, and the like. Compounds of formula I may form acid addition salts with one molar equivalent of the acid.

Those skilled in the art will realize that it will at times be more convenient to make certain compounds of formula I by derivatization of other compounds of formula I, rather than by making them directly, using one of the above-described Methods A-G. Such derivatizations will employ known reaction techniques. As non-limiting examples, where R^1 is hydrogen it can be oxidized to yield hydroxy; a nitro group can be reduced to yield an amine; a methoxy group can converted to hydroxy by standard demethylation procedures and hydroxy can, in appropriate settings, be in turn replaced with amine via the trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy derivative; an amine can be acylated to yield an alkanoylamine or can be alkylated to yield the mono- or dialkylamine; a halogen can be replaced, in appropriate settings, by an

amine; and a protecting group can be removed.

Biological Properties

The above-described compounds of formula I possess inhibitory activity against HIV-1 reverse transcriptase. When administered in suitable dosage forms, they are useful in the prevention or treatment of AIDS, ARC and related disorders associated with HIV-1 infection. Another aspect of the invention, therefore, is a method for preventing or treating HIV-1 infection which comprises administering to a human being, exposed to or infected by HIV-1, a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of a novel compound of Formula I, as described above.

The compounds of formula I may be administered in single or divided doses by the oral, parenteral or topical routes. A suitable oral dosage for a compound of formula I would be in the range of about 0.5 mg to 1 g per day. In parental formulations, a suitable dosage unit may contain from 0.1 to 250 mg of said compounds, whereas for topical administration, formulations containing 0.01 to 1% active ingredient are preferred. It should be understood, however, that the dosage administration from patient to patient will vary and the dosage for any particular patient will depend upon the clinician's judgement, who will use as criteria for fixing a proper dosage the size and condition of the patient as well as the patient's response to the drug.

When the compounds of the present invention are to be administered by the oral route, they may be administered as medicaments in the form of pharmaceutical preparations which contain them in association with a compatible pharmaceutical carrier material. Such carrier material can be an inert organic or inorganic carrier material suitale for oral administration. Examples of such carrier materials are water, gelatin, talc, starch, magnesium stearate, gum arabic, vegetable oils, polyalkylene-glycols, petroleum jelly and the like.

The pharmaceutical preparations can be prepared in a conventional manner and finished dosage forms can be solid dosage forms, for example, tablets, dragees, capsules, and the like, or liquid dosage forms, for example solutions, suspensions, emulsions and the like. The pharmaceutical preparations may be subjected to conventional pharmaceutical operations such as sterilization. Further, the pharmaceutical preparations may contain conventional adjuvants such as preservatives, stabilizers, emulsifiers, flavor-improvers, wetting agents, buffers, salts for varying the osmotic pressure and the like. Solid carrier material which can be used include, for example, starch, lactose, mannitol, methyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, talc, silica, dibasic calcium phosphate, and high molecular weight polymers (such as polyethylene glycol).

For parenteral use, a compound of formula I can be administered in an aqueous or non-aqueous solution, suspension or emulsion in a pharmaceutically acceptable oil or a mixture of liquids, which may contain bacteriostatic agents, antioxidants, preservatives, buffers or other solutes to render the solution isotonic with the blood, thickening agents, suspending agents or other pharmaceutically acceptable additives. Additives of this type include, for example, tartrate, citrate and acetate buffers, ethanol, propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, complex formers (such as EDTA), antioxidants (such as sodium bisulfite, sodium metabisulfite, and ascorbic acid), high molecular weight polymers (such as liquid polyethylene oxides) for viscosity regulation and polyethylene derivatives of sorbitol anhydrides. Preservatives may also be added if necessary, such as benzoic acid, methyl or propyl paraben, benzalkonium chloride and other quaternary ammonium compounds.

The compounds of this invention may also be administered as solutions for nasal application and may contain in addition to the compounds of this invention suitable buffers, tonicity adjusters, microbial preservatives, antioxidants and viscosity-increasing agents in an aqueous vehicle. Examples of agents used to increase viscosity are polyvinyl alcohol, cellulose derivatives, polyvinylpyrrolidone, polysorbates or glycerin. Microbial preservatives added may include benzalkonium chloride, thimerosal, chloro-butanol or phenylethyl alcohol. Additionally, the compounds provided by the invention can be administered by suppository.

As stated before, the compounds provided by the invention inhibit the enzymatic activity of HIV-1 RT. Based upon testing of these compounds, as described below, it is known that they inhibit the RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity of HIV-1 RT. It is known (data not shown) that they also inhibit the DNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity of HIV-1 RT.

Utilizing the Reverse Transcriptase (RT) Assay described below, compounds can be tested for their ability to inhibit the RNA-dependent DNA polymerase activity of HIV-1 RT. Certain specific compounds described in the Examples which appear below, were so tested. The results of this testing appear in Table I, below.

REVERSE TRANSCRIPTASE (RT) ASSAY

Assay Theory:

Among the enzymes for which Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1) encodes is a reverse transcriptase (1), so-named because it transcribes a DNA copy from an RNA template. This activity can be quantitatively measured in a cell-free enzyme assay, which has been previously described (2), and is based upon the observation that reverse transcriptase is able to use a synthetic template [poly r(C) primed with oligo d(G)] to transcribe a radio-labelled, acid-precipitable DNA strand utilizing ^{3}H-dGTP as a substrate.

Materials

a) Preparation of the enzyme

Reverse transcriptase enzyme from the LAV strain of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1) (1) was isolated from the bacterial strain JM109 (3) expressing the DNA clone pBRTprtl+ (2) which is under the control of the lac promotor in the expression vector pIBI21 (4). An overnight culture grown in 2XYT medium (37° C, 225 rpm) (5) supplemented with 100 µg/ml ampicillin for positive selection is inoculated at a 1:40 dilution into M9 medium supplemented with 10µg/ml thiamine, 0.5% casamino acids, and 50 µg/ml ampicillin (5). The culture is incubated (37° C, 225 rpm) until it reaches an OD540 of 0.3-0.4. At that time the repressor inhibitor IPTG (isopropyl β-D-thiogalactopyranoside) is added to 0.5mM, and the mixture is incubated for 2 additional hours. Bacteria are pelleted, resuspended in a 50mM Tris, 0.6mM EDTA, 0.375M NaCl buffer and digested by the addition of lysozyme (1mg/ml) for 30 minutes on ice. The cells are lysed by the addition of 0.2% NP-40 and brought to 1M NaCl.

After removal of the insoluble debris by centrifugation, the protein is precipitated by the addition of 3 volumes of saturated aqueous ammonium sulfate. The enzyme is pelleted, resuspended in RT buffer (50mM Tris pH 7.5, 1mM EDTA, 5mM DTT, 0.1% NP-40, 0.1M NaCl, and 50% glycerol), and stored at -70° C for further use.

b) Composition of 2X concentrated stock reaction mixture

Stock Reagent	2X Mix Concentration
1M Tris pH 7.4	100mM
1M Dithiothrietol	40mM
1M NaCl	120mM
1% Nonidet P-40	0.1%
1M MgCl	4mM
[poly r(C)/oligo d(G)](5:1)	2µg/ml
^{3}H-dGTP (81µM)	0.6µM

Assay Procedure:

The 2X concentrated stock reaction mixture is aliquoted and stored at -20° C. The mixture is stable and thawed for use in each assay. This enzyme assay has been adapted to a 96 well microtiter plate system, and has been previously described (6). Tris buffer (50 mM, pH 7.4), vehicle (solvent diluted to match the compound dilution), or compounds in vehicle are dispensed into 96-well microtiter plates (10µl/well; 3 wells/compound). The HIV-1 RT enzyme is thawed, diluted in 50mM Tris pH 7.4 so that fifteen µl of diluted enzyme contain 0.001 Unit (one unit is that amount of enzyme to transform 1 micromole of substrate per minute at 25° C), and fifteen µl are dispensed per well. Twenty µl of 0.12-0.5M EDTA are added to the first three wells of the microtiter plate. EDTA chelates the Mg^{++} present and prevents reverse transciption. This group serves as background polymerization which is subtracted from all other groups. Twenty-five ul of the 2X reaction mixture are added to all wells and the assay is allowed to incubate at room temperature for 60 minutes. The assay is terminated by precipitating the DNA in each well with 50µl of 10% trichloracetic acid (TCA) (10% w/v) in sodium pyrophosphate (1% w/v). The microtiter plate is incubated for 15 minutes at 4° C and the precipitate is fixed onto #30 glass fiber paper (Schleicher & Schuell) using a Skatron semi-automatic harvester. The filters are then washed with additional TCA (5%) containing sodium pyrophosphate

(1%), rinsed with aqueous ethanol (70%), dried, and transferred to scintillation vials (6). Each vial receives 2 mls of scintillation cocktail and is counted in a Beckman beta counter.

The calculation for percent inhibition is as follows:

$$\%\text{inhibition} = \frac{\text{CPM Mean Test Value - CPM Mean Control Value X150}}{\text{CPM Mean Control Value}}$$

References:

1. Benn, S., et al., *Science* 230:949, 1985
2. Farmerie, W.G. et. al., *Science* 236:305, 1987
3. Yanisch-Perron, C., Viera, J., and Messing, J., *Gene* 33:103, 1985
4. International Biotechnologies, Inc., New Haven, CT 06535
5. Maniatis, T, Fritsch, E.F., and J. Sambrook, eds. *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1982
6. Spira, T., et. al. *J. Clinical Microbiology*, 25:97, 1987.

In order to confirm that compounds which are active in the RT Assay also have the ability to inhibit HIV replication in a living system, compounds according to the invention were also tested in the human T-Cell Culture Assay described below. The results of this testing appear in Table I.

HUMAN T-CELL CULTURE ASSAY

Assay Theory:

Formation of syncytia is a feature of *in vitro* cultures of CD4+ T-cells infected with HIV-1. In this assay, T-cells are treated with a putative replication inhibiting compound and then infected with HIV-1. After incubation, the culture is checked for the formation of syncytia. The absence or reduction in the number of syncytia is used as a measure of the test compound's ability to inhibit HIV replication.

Assay Method:

The target cells, designated c8166, are a subclone of human lymphoma cells of T-cell origin and are established at an initial density of $5x10^4$ per 100 ul in RPMI 1640 (+ 10% fetal bovine serum) culture medium in 96 well flat bottom plates. A selected amount of test compound, dissolved in DMSO, is included. After 24 hours, 50-100 $TCID_{50}$'s (the dose that results in induced effect in 50% of test cultures) of the HTLV-IIIB strain of HIV-1 (2) are inoculated into each culture. Control cultures receive compound or virus only. Four days after virus challenge, cutlures are visually examined for the frequency and distribution of virus-induced giant cell syncytia. The percent inhibition by the test compound is determined by comparison with control values. Confirmation of the presence or absence of virus replication is accomplished by harvesting the cell free culture fluids from all experimental groups to determine the presence or absence of infectious progeny through the induction of syncytia formation in secondary human T-cell cultures after 3 days.

References:

(1) M. Somasundaran and H.L. Robinson, *Science* 242, 1554 (1988).

(2) G.M. Shaw, R.H. Hahn, S.K. Arya, J.E. Groopman, R.C. Gallo and F. Wong-Staal, *Science* 226, 1165 (1984)

In order to assess the specificity of the enzyme inhibitory activity of the compounds provided by the invention, a few were tested, using known *per se* assay methods, for their ability to inhibit Feline Leukemia Virus-derived reverse transcriptase and Calf Thymus-derived DNA alpha-polymerase. None of the compounds so tested was observed to possess any inhibitory activity against these enzymes. These results indicate that the enzyme inhibitory activity of the compounds provided by the invention is directed rather specifically against HIV-1 RT.

In order to roughly assess the cytotoxicity of the compounds by the invention, several such compounds were tested in the MTT Cellular Cytotoxicity Assay described below. The results of this testing are reported in Table I, below. Compounds having a relatively high EC_{50} are preferred.

MTT ASSAY FOR CELLULAR CYTOTOXICITY

Assay Theory:

The MTT [3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-2,5 diphenyl tetrazolium bromide) assay is based on cleavage of tetrazolium bromide by metabolically active cells, resulting in a highly quantitative blue color. This assay has been previously described (1) but has been optimized for the purposes of the testing reported herein.

Assay Method:

The H9 cell line (2), an established human lymphoma suspension cell line grown in RPMI 1640 supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, is used as the target cell line in the assay. Cells (100µl) are plated in microtest plate wells at a concentration of 10^5 cells per ml in the presence of varying concentrations of inhibitor. The cells are incubated at 37° C in a humidified CO_2 incubator. Five days later, 20µl of MTT (5mg/ml in RPMI 1640, sonicated, 0.2 micron filtered, and stored at 4° C) is added to each well. After 4 hours additional incubation at 37° C, 60µl of Triton-X is added to each well and thoroughly mixed to aid the solubilization of the crystals. Absolute ethanol (5µl) is added to each well and the resulting mixture is incubated for 30 minutes at 60° C and immediately read on a plate reader (Dynatech) at a wavelength of 570nm.

Data from this assay are used to generate a nonlinear regression analysis which yields an EC_{50}.

References:

1. Mosmann, Tim, *J. Immunol.* Methods, 65:55, 1983.
2. Jacobs, J.P., *J. Natl. Cancer Inst.*, 34:231, 1965.

TABLE 1

Compound of Example No.	RT Assay % inhibition @ 10 µg/ml	T-Cell Assay % inhibution @ 3 µg/ml	Cytotoxicity Assay (EC_{50}, µM)
10	100	NT	NT
11	100	100	200
12	100	100	250
13	36*	NT	NT
15	91+	100	45
16	96+	100	350
17	40*	NT	NT
18	75*	NT	NT
19	85*	NT	NT
20	76*	NT	NT
21	91*	NT	NT
22	90*	NT	NT
23	99	100	NT
24	87	NT	NT
25	63*	NT	NT
26	99	NT	NT
27	99	NT	NT
28	50*	NT	NT
29	93	NT	NT
30	85	NT	NT
31	100	NT	NT
32	88	NT	NT
33	35*	NT	NT
34	94*	NT	NT
35	86*	NT	NT
36	2*	NT	NT

37	34*	NT	NT
38	0	NT	NT
39	100	NT	NT
40	99	NT	NT
41	100	NT	NT
42	83*	NT	NT
43	85*	NT	NT
44	91	NT	NT
45	64*	NT	NT
46	70*	NT	NT
47	34*	NT	NT
48	0*	NT	NT
49	0*	NT	NT
50	43*	NT	NT
51	90*	NT	NT
52	44	NT	NT
53	90*	NT	NT
54	35*	NT	NT
55	44	NT	NT
56	100	100	NT
57	77	NT	NT
58	52*	NT	NT
59	44*	NT	NT
60	20*	NT	NT
61	72*	NT	NT
62	17*	NT	NT
63	30#	NT	NT
64	61*	NT	NT
65	68*	NT	NT
66	66*	NT	NT
67	37+	NT	NT
68	8*	NT	NT
69	90*	NT	NT

70	75*	NT	NT
71	0*	NT	NT
72	98*	NT	NT
73	94*	NT	NT
74	82*	NT	NT
75	100	NT	NT
76	88*	NT	NT

* = @ 1 µM
\+ = @ 1.25 µM
\# = @ 0.5 µM
NT = not tested

Examples

The following examples further illustrate the present invention and will enable others skilled in the art to understand it more completely. It should be understood, however, that the invention is not limited to the particular examples given below.

Example 1
5,11-Dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one
a) 2-Chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

In a three-necked round-bottomed flask, fitted with an efficient reflux condenser, mechanical stirrer and dropping funnel, were placed 215 g (1.672 mol) and 3-amino-2-chloropyridine, dissovled in a mixture of 400 ml dioxane, 500 ml cyclohexane and 130 ml pyridine. The solution of 299.2 g (1.7 mol) of freshly prepared 2-chloro-3-pyridinecarboxylic acid chloride in 200 ml dioxane was added at such a rate as to keep the vigorous reaction under control. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature and the resulting crystalline precipitate was filtered off and washed successively with cyclohexane and ether.

The dark brown product was dissolved in 5 l of a 3% aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide. The resulting solution was treated with charcoal, suction filtered, and the filtrate was acidified by addition of 50% aqueous acetic acid. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration and thoroughly washed with water. After being dried overnight in a stream of nitrogen at room temperature the almost colorless product had a m.p. of 156-159° C and was sufficiently pure for further reactions. The yield was 376.0 g (84% of theory).

b) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-[[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]methyl]amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide

13.4 g (0.05 mol) of the product obtained in step a) were dissolved in 20 ml of xylene, and the resulting solution was admixed with 13.8 g (0.1 mol) of p-methoxybenzylamine. Thereafter, the mixture was refluxed for two hours. The reaction mixture was then evaporated in vacuo, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (0.2-0.5 mm) using dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 10/1 (v/v) as an eluent. Concentration afforded colorless crystals, melting at 122-124° C (after recrystallization from acetonitrile). The yield was 17.2 g (93% of theory).

c) 5,11-Dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

16.7 g (0.0453 mol) of the product obained in step b) were dissolved in 150 ml of absolute dioxane, and the resulting solution was admixed with 6.7 g (0.14 mol) of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in mineral oil. Thereafter, the mixture - while protected against the external atmosphere by a low flow of nitrogen - was refluxed until no starting material could be detected by TLC. The surplus of sodium hydride was

decomposed by cautious addition of 10 ml of a mixture of methanol and tetrahydrofuran (50/50 v/v). The reaction mixture was neutralized by addition of acetic acid and then was evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (0.2-0.5 mm) using successively dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 10/1 (v/v) and dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 1/1 (v/v) as eluents. The crystalline product obtained by evaporation of suitable fractions was recrystallized from acetonitrile and 2-propanol. The product had a m.p. of 213-215 °C and was identified as 5,11-dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)-methyl]-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one. The yield was 10.3 g (68% of theory).

d) 5,11-Dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

10.0 g (0.3 mol) of the product obtained in step c) were dissolved in 50 ml of trifluoroacetic acid, whereby the mixture became slightly warm. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 1 hour. No starting material could be detected by TLC at that time. The mixture was then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue thus obtained was thoroughly stirred with 0.5% aqueous ammonia and then was filtered by suction. The raw product was recrystallized from 150 ml of dimethyl sulfoxide to provide colorless crystals of m.p. > 340 °C. The yield was 4.8 g (75% of theory). The product was identified as 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-][1,4]diazepin-6-one.

Example 2

5,11-Dihydro-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-3][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-(propylamino)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

26.8 g (0.1 mol) of 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide were dissolved in 200 ml of dioxane, and the resulting solution was admixed with 21.4 g (0.362 mol) of propylamine. Thereafter, the mixture was shaken in a stainless steel pressure vessel at 150 °C for 6 hours. The reaction mixture was then evaporated *in vacuo*, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel, successively using dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 10/1 (v/v) and dichloromethane/cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 1/2/1 (v/v/v) as eluents. The product obtained by evaporation was a highly viscous resin that had a satisfactory quality for the following reaction.

b) 5,11-Dihydro-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1c), 5,11-dihydro-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 184-186 °C (recrystallized from acetonitrile), was prepared from the product obtained in the above step a) and sodium hydride. The yield was 74% of theory.

Example 3

5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one

a) 2-Chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide

A four-necked round-bottomed flask, equipped with a mechanical stirrer, a dropping funnel, a thermometer and an efficient reflux condenser, was charged with 268.1 g (1.0 mol) of 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide, 260 ml of 50% aqueous sodium hydroxide, 1500 ml of toluene and 8.0 g (0.0352 mol) of benzyltriethylammonium chloride. Stirring was begun and a solution of 134 ml (178.5 g, 1.415 mol) of dimethyl sulphate in 1 l of toluene was added dropwise over a period of about 3 hours, whereby the temperature rose to 50-60 °C. After the addition of dimethyl sulfate was complete, stirring at 60 °C was continued for a further 2 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 1 l of water was added. The layers were separated, and the aqueous phase was extracted three times with 300-ml portions of toluene. The organic layers were combined and washed successively with 300 ml of water, 300 ml of 1% aqueous acetic acid and 300 ml of water. The combined organic extracts were dried over sodium sulfate, and the solvent was removed by distillation under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (0.2-0.5 mm) using as eluents successively toluene and ethyl acetate/cyclohexane/tetrahydrofuran 1/9/10 (v/v/v). The product obtained by evaporation of suitable fractions was recrystallized from acetonitrile/tert-butyl methyl ether 1/1 (v/v). It was highly soluble in dichloromethane, had a m.p. of 98-101 °C, and was identified to be 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide. The yield was 232.5 g (82.5% of theory).

b) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-2-(propylamino)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 2a, N-2-(chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-2-(propylamino)-3-piperidinecarboxamide was prepared from the product obtained in the preceding step and propylamine. The yield was 91% of theory.

c) 5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1c, except employing tetrahydrofuran instead of dioxane as a solvent and applying only equimolar quantities of sodium hydride, 5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-11-propyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, a highly viscous oil, was prepared from the product obtained in the above step. The yield was 75% of theory.

Example 4

5,11-Diethyl-5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one

6.4 g (0.03 mol) of 5,11-dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one were dissolved in 100 ml of absolute dimethylformamide, and the resulting solution was admixed with 3.4 g (0.071 mol) of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in mineral oil. While protected against the external atmosphere by a flow of nitrogen, the mixture was stirred at 50-70 °C for 1 hour. After the evolution of hydrogen had ceased, the mixture was cooled to 30 °C and 10.9 g (0.07 mol) of ethyl iodide were added dropwise within 15 minutes. For completion of the exothermic reaction, the mixture was heated at 80-90 °C for a further hour. The solvent was removed by distillation under reduced pressure. The residue was admixed with water and the suspension thus obtained was exhaustively extracted with dichloromethane. The product obtained after usual work-up was recrystallized from 150 ml of isooctane. The product had a m.p. of 102-103 °C and was identified as 5,11-diethyl-5,11-dihydro- 6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one. The yield was 5.7 g (71% of theory).

Example 5

5,11-Dihydro-5-ethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1b, except employing diethyleneglycoldimethyl ether as a solvent instead of xylene, N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-3-pyridine carboxamide, m.p. 95-97 °C (recrystallized from diethyleneglycoldimethyl ether), was prepared from 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide and benzylamine. The yield was 72% of theory.

b) 5,11-Dihydro-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1c except employing diethyleneglycoldimethyl ether as a solvent instead of dioxane, 5,11-dihydro-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e]-[1,4]-diazepin-6-one, m.p. 212-213 °C (recrystallized from 1-propanol), was prepared from the product obtained in step a) and sodium hydride. The yield was 61% of theory.

c) 5,11-Dihydro-5-ethyl-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 3a, 5,11-dihydro-5-ethyl-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 209-211 °C (recrystallized from toluene/acetonitrile 1/1 v/v), dichloromethane/methanol 99/1 v/v), was prepared from the product obtained in step b) and diethyl sulfate. The yield was 82% of theory.

d) 5,11-Dihydro-5-ethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1d, except employing a pressure vessel instead of an open one and heating the mixture at 120 °C for 10 hours, 5,11-dihydro-5-ethyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 161-163 °C (recrystallized from isooctane/ethyl acetate 1/1 v/v), was prepared from the product obtained in step (c). The yield was 57% of theory.

Example 6

5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1b, N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-2-[(phenylmethyl)amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide, m.p. 114-116 °C (recrystallized from tert-butyl methyl ether), dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 3/1 v/v), was prepared from 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide and benzylamine. The yield was 87% of theory.

b) 5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure of analogous to that described in Example 3b, 5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-11-(phenylmethyl)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2y,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 198-199 °C (recrystallized from acetonitrile), was prepared from the product obtained in step (a). The yield was 80% of theory.

c) 5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

A mixture consisting of 75.5 g (0.239 mol) of the product obtained in step b), 2.5 kg of polyphosphoric acid, and 425 ml of anisole was stirred at 140-160 °C for 2 hours. While still hot, the reaction mixture was stirred into crushed ice. Thereafter, the mixture was made slightly alkaline by addition of aqueous ammonia and was then exhaustively extracted with dichloromethane. The combined organic layers were dried over sodium sulfate and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel using dichloromethane/ethyl acetate 1/1 (v/v) as an eluent. The product obtained by evaporation of suitable fractions was recrystallized from acetonitrile, yielding 21.6 g (40% of theory) of colorless crystals having a m.p. of 236-237 °C.

Example 7

5,11-Dihydro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

3.8 g (0.0126 mol) of the product obtained in Example 5b were dissolved in 20 ml of trifluoroacetic acid whereby the mixture became slightly warm. Thereafter, the reaction mixture was refluxed for 8 hours. No starting material could be detected by TLC at that point of time. The mixture was then evaporated *in vacuo*, the residue thus obtained was thoroughly stirred with 0.5% aqueous ammonia and then filtered by suction. The raw material was suspended in 20 ml of acetonitrile, refluxed for 15 minutes and suction filtered while hot. The filter cake was recrystallized from hot dimethyl sulfoxide yielding 1.2 g (45% of theory) of colorless crystals which had a m.p. > 340 °C and were identified by m.p., mixed m.p. and UV-, IR- and MS spectra to be identical with the compound obtained in Example 1d.

Example 8

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 2-Chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1a, 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide was prepared. The purified product was obtained by cooling the reaction mixture to room temperature and decanting the supernatant from the precipitate. The solid was then dissolved in methylene chloride, and the solution washed with water, dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate), and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The solid was then washed with ethyl acetate and dried to provide 7.24g (84% of theory) of product suitable for use in the next reaction.

b) N-(2-Chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-[[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1b, N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-[[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide was prepared. The purified product was obtained by removing the solvent *in vacuo*, adding water to the residue, and extracting the product with methylene chloride. This solution was dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate) and the solvent removed to give a brown oil which was treated with 10 ml of ether. The product which crystallized was filtered and sequentially with ether and hexane to give 78.0 g (91% of theory) of the title compound as an off-white powder, m.p. 121-122 °C.

c) 5,11-Dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

1.44 g of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in mineral oil was added to a solution of 3.69g (0.010 mol) N-(2-chloro-3-pyridinyl)-2-[[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]amino]-3-pyridinecarboxamide in 100 ml of dimethylformamide. After the evolution of hydrogen stopped, the mixture was heated (110 °C) for 16 hours and then refluxed for eight hours. After the mixture had cooled, the excess sodium hydride was decomposed by the slow addition of ice. The mixture was further diluted with water, and the product was extracted with ether and concentrated. The crystallized residue was filtered and washed with ether to give 1.60 g of 5,11-dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one (50% of theory) as an off-white powder, m.p. 209-120 °C.

d) 5,11-Dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido [3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one

10.0 g (0.030 mol) of 5,11-dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one was added to a flask containing 2.16 g of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in mineral oil and 100 ml of dimethylformamide. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. and then heated to 50 °C for 30 min. After cooling, 8.51 g (0.060 mol) of methyl iodide in 10 ml of dimethylformamide was added dropwise and the mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature overnight. Excess sodium hydride was decomposed by the careful addition of ice. Water was then added, and the product was extracted with ether, dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate), and concentrated to give 10.3 g (99% of theory) of 5,11-dihydro-11-[(4-methoxy-phenyl)-methyl]-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one as a light yellow oil suitable for use in the next reaction.

e) 5,11-Dihydro-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

50 ml of trifluoroacetic acid was added to 10.3 g (0.030 mol) of 5,11-dihydro-11-[(4-methoxyphenyl)-methyl]-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido [3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one, and the mixture was stirred for one hour at room temperature. The acid was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was stirred for one hour with 0.5% ammonia. The solid was filtered and dried to give 6.70 g (98% of theory) of pure 5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido [3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 230-232 °C.

f) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

2.00 g of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in mineral oil was added to a solution of 5.75 g (0.025 mol) of 5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one in 100 ml of dimethylformamide. When the evolution of hydrogen ceased, the mixture was heated to 50 °C for 30 min. and then cooled to room temperature. Then,7.80 g of ethyl iodide (neat) was added dropwise over 15 minutes, and the resulting mixture was allowed to stir overnight at room temperature. The excess sodium hydride was decomposed by the careful addition of ice, followed by water. The product was extracted with ether, dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate), and evaporated to yield 4.5 g (70% of theory) of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 130-132 °C.

Example 9

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-thione

A mixture of 2.66g (0.01 mol) of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one and 2.10g (0.005 mol) of Lawesson's reagent (2,4-bis(4-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-dithia-2,4-diphosphetane-2,4-disulfide) in 50ml of toluene was refluxed for 2 1/2 h. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo* and water was added to the residue. The product was extracted with ethyl acetate, dried (anhydrous sodium sulfate), and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was effected on a silica gel column using methylene chloride as the first eluent, followed by ethyl acetate/hexane (1:4). Removal of the solvent *in vacuo* gave 2.20g (74% of theory) of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-thione as a yellow powder, which was recrystallized from 10% hexane/ethyl acetate to provide 1.1 g of the title compound as yellow needles, m.p. 157-158 °C.

Example 10

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 3-Cyano-2-hydroxy-6-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine

A solution of 14.0g of cyanoacetamide in 80 ml of ethanol was warmed to 50°C, and then 14g of piperidine and 25g of trifluoroacetylacetone were added. The resulting mixture was stirred at 70° for 30 min. and then allowed to stir overnight at room temperature. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and then diluted with 100 ml of water. Concentrated hydrochloric acid (15 ml) was cautiously added with stirring and after 15 min. the precipitate was filtered and dried *in vacuo* overnight to give 27.8 g of the desired cyanopyridine.

b) 3-Aminocarbonyl-2-chloro-6-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine

A mixture of 35 ml of phosphorous oxychloride and 9.8g of the cyanopyridine obtained above was refluxed for 5 hrs. The cooled mixture was quenched by cautiously adding to 400 ml of ice water. The product was extracted with methylene chloride, washed with saturated sodium bicarbonate, and dried (magnesium sulfate). After filtering and concentrating *in vacuo*, the crude chloro compound was dissolved in 50 ml of concentrated sulfuric acid and heated to 140°C for 20 min. The cooled mixture was carefully poured over 600 ml of ice and the precipitate filtered, washed with ice water, and dried to give 7.6g of the desired amide. The filtrate was extracted with 200 ml of ethyl acetate, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered and concentrated to give an additional 1.7g of product.

c) 3-Amino-2-chloro-6-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine

To a solution of 6.6g of sodium hydroxide in 60 ml of water at 5°C was added 9.3g of bromine. When a clear solution was obtained, 9.2g of 3-aminocarbonyl-2-chloro-6-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine was added quickly, maintaining the temperature below 5°C. The resulting mixture was stirred until the 3-(aminocarbonyl)pyridine dissolved (~30 min). The cooling bath was removed and the mixture was then warmed to 75°C for 30 min. After cooling to room temperature, the 3-aminopyridine product was extracted with ethyl acetate, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered, and evaporated to give 4.9g of the desired product.

d) 2-Chloro-N-(2-chloro-6-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

To a cooled (-78°C) solution of 2.1g of the 3-amino-2-chloro-6-methyl-4-(trifluoromethyl)pyridine in 10 ml of THF was added dropwise over 3 min. 7 ml of lithium diisopropylamine (LDA, 1.5 M in cyclohexane). The mixture was stirred 5 min., and 0.9g of 2-chloronicotinoyl chloride in 3 ml of THF was added over 1 min. After 5 min. an additional 3 ml of LDA solution was added followed by an additional 0.5 g of the acid chloride in 1 ml of THF. The resulting mixture was stirred 10 min. and then quenched with 100 ml of water. After partitioning with 30 ml of ethyl acetate, the organic phase was extracted with water and the combined aqueous phases extracted with methylene chloride, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered and evaporated to give the crude product. This was washed with a small amount of ethyl acetate and dried to give 1.3g of the title compound.

e) N-(2-Chloro-6-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Ethylamine (0.4g) was added to a suspension of 1.3g of 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-6-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide in 5 ml of xylene, and the resulting mixture heated in a pressure tube for 30 min. at 160°C. The cooled mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed, dried, and concentrated. Column chromatography over silica gel (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:1) gave 0.5g of the title compound.

f) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-6H-dipyrido-[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

A solution of 0.5 g of N-(2-chloro-6-methyl-4-trifluoromethyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide in 3 ml of pyridine was added to 0.2g of a 50% dispersion of sodium hydride in oil. The mixture was heated to 150°C and then cooled and concentrated *in vacuo*. Water was added to the residue and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate, dried (magnesium sulfate), filtered, and concentrated. The product was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (methylene chloride, then methylene chloride/methanol). After concentrating *in vacuo*, the residue was crystallized from hexane to give 0.09g of the title compound, m.p. 150-151°C.

Example 11

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 2-Chloro-4-methyl-3-nitropyridine

A mixture of 25g of 2-hydroxy-4-methyl-3-nitropyridine, 12.5g of phosphorous pentachloride, and 62 ml of phosphorous oxychloride was refluxed for 2 hrs. After cooling, the mixture was poured onto crushed ice and stirred until a precipitate formed. The product was extracted with methylene chloride, dried (sodium sulfate) and concentrated to a brown oil, which was washed with hot hexane. Concentration *in vacuo* provided 16.2g of the the title compound, m.p. 45-47° C.

b) 3-Amino-2-chloro-4-methylpyridine

16.2g of 2-chloro-4-methyl-3-nitropyridine was added to 470 ml of acetic acid and the resulting mixture stirred at room temperature for 15 min. A solution of 160 g of stannic chloride dihydrate in 200 ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid was then added in one portion and the resulting mixture stirred overnight at room temperature. This mixture was then diluted to 1 liter with water and 10N sodium hydroxide was added slowly with cooling until the white precipitate of tin hydrochloride dissolved. The product was extracted with methylene chloride, dried (sodium sulfate) and concentrated to give 12.8g of a yellow oil, which solidified on standing, of almost pure 3-amino-2-chloro-4-methylpyridine suitable for use in the next reaction.

c) 2-Chloro-N-(2-chloro-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 1a, the carboxamide was prepared from 12.8g of 3-amino-2-chloro-4-methyl pyridine, 15.8g of 2-chloronicotinoyl chloride, 7.1g of pyridine, 30ml of cyclohexane and 60 ml of dioxane. After removal of the solvent, the product was dissolved in methylene chloride, washed with water and dried (sodium sulfate). After removal of the solvent, the residue was washed with ethyl acetate to give 1.2g of the title compound, m.p. 193-194° C.

d) N-(2-Chloro-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Ethylamine (12.7g) was added to a suspension of 21.0g of the 2-chloro-N-(2-chloro-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide in 150ml of xylene in a steel bomb. The mixture was then heated in an oil bath to 165° C for 6 hrs. and then stirred overnight at room temperature. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and water added to the residue. The product was extracted with ether, dried (sodium sulfate) and concentrated to give an oil. This was dissolved in ethyl acetate followed by hexane at which time a precipitate formed. The solid was filtered and dried to give 16.5g of the title compound, m.p. 122-124° C.

e) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

A 50% suspension of sodium hydride (7.9g) was added to a solution of 16.0g of N-(2-chloro-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide obtained above in 200 ml of dimethylformamide and stirred for 30 min. The mixture was then refluxed for 2 hrs., cooled and carefully treated with crushed ice. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and water was added to the residue. The product was extracted with ether, dried (sodium sulfate) and concentrated. The residue was boiled with ethyl acetate/cyclohexane (1:1) and filtered to give 4.1g of almost pure product. 2.0g of this product was further purified by recrystallization from dichloroethane to give 1.0g of pure 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 212-214° C.

Example 12

11-Cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Using a procedure analogous to that employed in Example 11, but using cyclopropylamine instead of ethylamine, yielded the title compound, m.p. 247-249 °C.

Example 13

11-Cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-5-hydroxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

To a mixture of 0.5g of 11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one (Example 12) in 25 ml of tetrahydrofuran was added 0.12g of 50% sodium hydride in mineral oil. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for one hour and then cooled to 0° C, at which time 0.9g

of oxodiperoxymolybdenum(pyridine)hexamethylphosphoramide (MoOPH) was added in one portion. The reaction mixture was then allowed to warm to room temperature and was allowed to stir overnight. The mixture was quenched with water and the solvents removed *in vacuo*. The residue was extracted with warm ethyl acetate, concentrated *in vacuo* and purified on a silica gel column (eluent: ethyl acetate) to give 0.05 g of pure 11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-5-hydroxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 239-241° C. The yield was 9.5% of theory.

EXAMPLE 14

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 3-Amino-2-bromo-6-methoxypyridine

Sodium acetate (1.6 g) was added to a solution of 5-amino-2-methoxypyridine (2.5 g) in acetic acid (15 ml). To the resulting solution bromine (3.0 g) was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred for 20 min., and then added to a solution of sodium hydroxide (10 g) in water (100 ml). The product was extracted with ethyl acetate (50 ml), dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), and concentrated *in vacuo*. The product was purified over a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:4) to give 2.7 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

b) N-(2-Bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-3-pyridinecarboxamide

To a solution of 3-amino-2-bromo-6-methoxypyridine (2.7 g) in methylene chloride (20 ml) and pyridine (1 ml) was added 2-chloronicotinoyl chloride (2.2 g), and the resulting mixture was stirred 20 min. The mixture was then diluted with methylene chloride (100 ml), washed with water (100 ml), dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), and concentrated. The semisolid residue was saturated with hexane, filtered, and dried to give 4.1 g of product suitable for use in the next reaction.

c) N-(2-Bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Sodium hydride (0.3 g of a 50% dispersion in mineral oil) was added to dimethylsulfoxide (10 ml) and warmed to 50° C. After cooling the mixture to room temperature, N-(2-bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-3-pyridinecarboxamide (2.0 g) was added and the resulting solution was stirred for 10 min. Methyl iodide (0.4 ml) was then added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addtion of water (10 ml) and ethyl acetate (100 ml) was then added. The organic phase was washed with water (4 x 100 ml), dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), concentrated, and purified on a silica gel column (methylene chloride followed by methylene chloride/ethanol, 98:2) to give 1.9 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

d) N-(2-Bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide

Ethylamine (0.7 g) was added to a solution of N-(2-bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide (1.9 g) in xylene (5 ml), and the resulting mixture was sealed in a pressure bottle and heated at 150° C for 4 hours. The solution was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with water, dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), concentrated, and purified on a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:4) to give 1.5 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

e) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Sodium hydride (0.9 g of a 50% dispersion in mineral oil) was added to a solution of N-(2-bromo-6-methoxy-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-N-methyl-3-pyridinecarboxamide (1.4 g) in xylene (20 ml) and the mixture refluxed for 2 hours. After cooling, the mixture was quenched with methanol, diluted with ethyl acetate, and washed with water. The organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), concentrated, and purified on a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:4) to give fairly pure product, which was then recrystallized twice from ethyl acetate/hexane to give 0.52 g of pure 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 116-118° C.

EXAMPLE 15

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

Hydrobromic acid (48%, 2 ml) was added to a solution of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one (0.3 g) in acetic acid (2 ml), and the resulting mixture was rapidly heated to reflux for 5 min. The reaction mixture was quenched with 10% sodium hydroxide (10 ml) and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate, dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated to give a solid which was recrystallized from ethyl acetate to give 0.08 g of product, m.p. 215-218° C.

b) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

To a solution of 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one (0.2 g) in methylene chloride (4 ml) under nitrogen was added diisopropylethylamine (0.2 ml) followed by trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (0.2 ml). The resulting mixture was stirred for one hour, and then diluted with methylene chloride (20 ml), and washed with water. The organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), concentrated, and purified on a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/hexane, 1:3) to give fairly pure product, suitable for use in the next reaction.

c) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one (0.25 g) was dissolved in pyrrolidine (1 ml) and refluxed 30 min. The cooled solution was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with water, and the organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated. The resulting oily residue was crystallized from ethyl acetate/hexane to provide 0.11 g of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-N-(pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 185-188° C.

EXAMPLE 16

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

a) 2-Methoxy-4-methyl-5-nitropyridine

Sodium methoxide (26.1 g) was added to a solution of 2-chloro-4-methyl-5-nitropyridine (19.0 g) in methanol (100 ml) and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 12 hours. Upon cooling, the mixture was poured over water (1 L), and the product was extracted with ethyl acetate and washed with water. The organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated, and the residue dissolved in hot ether and filtered. Crystallization from ether provided 10.2 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

b) 5-Amino-2-methoxy-4-methylpyridine

A mixture of stannous chloride dihydrate (41 g) and concentrated hydrochloric acid (40 ml) was added slowly to a solution of 2-methoxy-4-methyl-5-nitropyridine (5.1 g) in acetic acid (40 ml), maintaining the temperature below 35° C. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours, and then allowed to stand overnight in the refrigerator. The solid was collected and both solid and supernatant were separately basified with a 20% sodium hydroxide solution. The product was extracted with chloroform, combined, dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated to give 3.9 g of the title compound as a solid, suitable for use in the next reaction.

c) 3-Amino-2-bromo-6-methoxy-4-methylpyridine

Bromine (4.8 g) was added in one portion to a mixture of 5-amino-2-methoxy-4-methylpyridine (3.9 g) in acetic acid (25 ml) and sodium acetate (4.0 g). The resulting mixture was stirred for 20 min. and then added to a solution of sodium hydroxide (15 g) in water (200 ml). The product was extracted with chloroform, dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate), concentrated, and purified on a silica gel column (methylene chloride/ethyl acetate, 19:1 → 4:1) to give 4.4 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

d) N-(2-Bromo-6-methoxy-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-3-pyridinecarboxamide

2-Chloronicotinoyl chloride (3.5 g) was added to a solution of 3-amino-2-bromo-6-methoxy-4-methyl-

pyridine (4.5 g) in methylene chloride, and the resulting mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, and triturated with diisopropyl ether. The precipitated solid was filtered to give 6.0 g of the title compound, suitable for use in the next reaction.

e) N-(2-Bromo-6-methoxy-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide

A mixture of N-(2-bromo-6-methoxy-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-chloro-3-pyridinecarboxamide (2.1 g), dioxane (10 ml), and ethylamine (0.5 g) was heated to 140 ° C in a sealed tube for 5 hours. The cooled mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with water, and the organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated. The product was purified on a silica gel column (methylene chloride/ethyl acetate, 99:1) and crystallized by trituration with diisopropyl ether to give 0.95 g of the title compound.

f) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

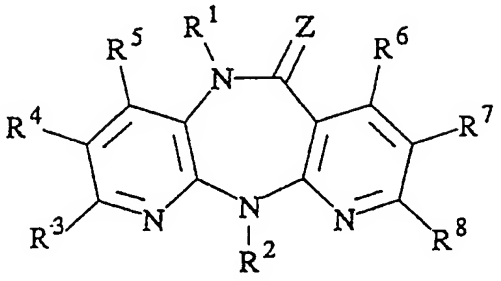
Sodium hydride (0.14 g of a 50% dispersion in mineral oil) was added to a solution of N-(2-bromo-6-methoxy-4-methyl-3-pyridinyl)-2-ethylamino-3-pyridinecarboxamide (0.54 g) in pyridine (4 ml), and the resulting mixture was refluxed for 1.5 hours. The cooled mixture was diluted with ethyl acetate, washed with water, and the organic phase was dried (anhydrous magnesium sulfate) and concentrated. The residue was washed with diisopropyl ether and hot ethyl acetate, and then crystallized from ethanol to provide 0.2 g of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one, m.p. 249-251 ° C.

EXAMPLES 17-73.

Using procedures analogous to those described above, the compounds of Examples 17-73, which are described below in Table II, were made.

TABLE II

Compounds in this table are of the formula



wherein R^1-R^8 are as defined below and Z is an oxygen atom unless noted to be a sulfur atom.

Ex.	R^1	R^2	Other	m.p. (°C)
17	methyl	ethyl	3-chloro, 2-nitro	215-216
18	H	cyclobutyl	4-methyl	214-215
19	H	cyclopropyl	2,4-dimethyl	>300
20	H	cyclopropyl	4-ethyl	228-230
21	H	ethyl	2-chloro, 4-methyl	224-228
22	H	cyclopropyl	2-chloro, 4-methyl	310-320
23	H	ethyl		211-212
24	methyl	t-butyl		192-194
25	methyl	ethyl	8-azido	265-266
26	H	isopropyl		204-206
27	H	cyclopropyl		240-250

28	methyl	cyclopropyl	4-methyl	244-245
29	methyl	cyclopropyl-methyl		138-139
30	H	(R)-2-butyl		172-174
31	methyl	ethyl	2,3-dimethyl	143-145
32	H	(S)-2-butyl		173-175
33	H	cyclopentyl		225-228
34	methyl	ethyl	2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl), 4-methyl	224-246
35	methyl	ethyl	2-(3-pyrrolin 1-yl)	153-156
36	H	ethyl	7,9-dimethyl	245-247
37	methyl	cyclopentyl		
38	methoxy-methyl	methoxy-methyl	4-methyl	135-137
39	H	ethyl	2-chloro, 4-trifluoromethyl	158-160
40	H	cyclobutyl		241-243
41	methyl	cyclobutyl		144-146
42	H	cyclopropyl	4-chloro	NA
43	methyl	ethyl	2-(tetrahydro-pyridin-1-yl)	138-140
44	H	cyclopropyl	4-methoxy	185-187
45	methyl	ethyl	2-(p-methoxy-benzylmethyl-amino)	83-85
46	methyl	ethyl	2-allylamino	167-170
47	H	cyclopropyl	4-hydroxymethyl	243-246
48	methyl	ethyl	3,8-dinitro	167-169
49	methyl	ethyl	2,8-dinitro, 3-chloro	215-216
50	H	cyclopropyl	4-methyl, 7-hydroxy	225-227

51	H	cyclopropyl	4-methyl, (Z=S)	189-194
52	methyl	cyano		274-277
53	methyl	cyclohexyl		145-146
54	H	cyclohexyl		199-201
55	H	ethyl	7,9-dimethyl, 8-chloro	160-162
56	methyl	cyclopropyl		163-166
57	methyl	methylsulfonyl		239-241
58	methyl	ethyl	2-amino, 3-chloro	160-162
59	allyl	cyclopropyl	4-methyl	146-149
60	methyl	ethyl	3,8-diamino	240-250
61	vinyloxy-carbonyl	cyclopropyl	4-methyl	140-143
62	methoxy	cyclopropyl	4-methyl	169-171
63	acetyl	cyclopropyl	4-methyl	176-179
64	methyl	ethyl	2-(p-methoxy-benzylamino)	133-135
65	methyl	ethyl	2-(morpholin-1-yl)	158-160
66	methyl	ethyl	2-(piperidin-1-yl)	164-166
67	H	cyclopropyl	4-cyano	243-245
68	dimethyl-aminoethyl	cyclopropyl		88-89
69	methyl	ethyl	2-dimethylamino	118-120
70	methyl	ethyl	2-ethylamino	154-157
71	methyl	ethyl	8-nitro	148-149
72	H	ethyl	2-dimethylamino, 4-methyl	209-211
73	H	ethyl	2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl), 3-choro, 4-methyl	215-218

NA = not available

Example 74

8-Amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2',3'-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one hemihydrate

a) 2-Ethylamino-3-nitropyridine

A stirred mixture of 2-chloro-3-nitropyridine (8.60 g, 0.054 mol), ethylamine (5.37 g, 0.12 mol), and xylene (10 ml) was heated at 100° C in a sealed tube for three hours. After cooling, the solvent was removed in vacuo, and water was added to the residue. The product was extracted with methylene chloride, dried (sodium sulfate), and concentrated in vacuo to give 10.0 g of the title compound as a yellow oil, suitable for use in the next reaction.

b) 3-Amino-2-ethylaminopyridine

Using a procedure analogous to that described in Example 11b, 6.5 g of the title compound was prepared from 9.1 g of 2-ethylamino-3-nitropyridine.

c) 2-Chloro-N-(2-ethylamino-3-pyridinyl)-5-nitro-3-pyridinecarboxamide

A solution of 2.21 g of 2-chloro-5-nitronicotinoyl chloride (obtained by nitrating 2-hydroxynicotinic acid, followed by conversion to 2-chloro-5-nitronicotinic acid, which was then treated with thionyl chloride) in 10 ml of tetrahydrofuran was slowly added over 15 minutes to a cooled, stirred mixture of 1.34 g of 3-Amino-2-ethylaminopyridine, 1.29 g of diisopropylethylamine, and 40 ml of tetrahydrofuran. The resulting mixture was allowed to stir overnight at room temperature, and then concentrated in vacuo. The title compound (2.30 g, m.p. 185-186 °C), which precipitated out when the residue was treated with methylene chloride, was suitable for use in the next reaction.

d) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-8-nitro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

A solution of 1.80 g of 2-chloro-N-(2-ethylamino-3-pyridinyl)-5-nitro-3-pyridinecarboxamide in 25 ml of xylene was refluxed for four hours. After concentrating in vacuo, the residue was purified on a silica gel column eluting with 50% ethyl acetate/hexane to give 0.93 g of the title compound.

e) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-8-nitro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one

The title compound (0.72 g, m.p. 148-149 °C) was prepared from 0.93 g of 5,11-dihydro-11- ethyl-8-nitro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one in a manner analogous to that described in Example 8d.

f) 8-Amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one hemi-hydrate

Following a procedure analogous to that described in Example 11b, 0.23 g of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-8-nitro-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one reduced to give, after recrystallization from 1,2-dichloroethane/hexane, 0.060 g of the title compound as a yellow-brown powder, m.p. 193-194 °C.

Example 75

6-Cyanoimino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepine

A mixture of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-6-methanesulfonyloxy-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepine (0.25g, 0.63 mmol), cyamamide (0.034g, 0.8 mmol), 5 ml of 1,4-dioxane, and potassium carbonate (0.11g, 0.8 mmol) was stirred at room temperature for 10 days. The mixture was then concentrated in vacuo, and the was residue partitioned between ethyl acetate and water. The organic phase was dried, filtered and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was chromatographed over silica with 10% ethyl acetate/methylene chloride to provide 0.025 g of the title compound, m.p. 230-233 °C.

Example 76

5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-6-methoxyimino-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepine

a) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-6-methanesulfonyloxy-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepine

Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (0.24 ml, 14 mmol) was added to a solution of 0.314 g (1.2 mmol) 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2,4-dimethyl-6*H*-dipyrido[3,2-*b*:2′,3′-*e*][1,4]diazepin-6-one in 15 ml of methylene chloride containing 0.25 ml (14 mmol) of diisopropylethylamine, and the resulting mixture was refluxed under argon for three hours. Ethyl acetate (~200 mL) was then added and the solution was washed three times with water and four times with brine. After drying (magnesium sulfate), the solution was concentrated in vacuo and the residue dried under high vacuum for 2 hr. The residue was dissolved in 20 ml of methylene chloride, and 0.23 g (14 mol) of tetraethylammonium cyanide was added. After stirring the resulting solution overnight at room temperature, the reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in 100 ml of ethyl acetate, and the solution was washed with water and brine. The dried (magnesium sulfate) solution was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was chromatographed over silica with 5% ethyl acetate/hexane. The resulting solid was crystallized from heptane to provide 0.033 g of the title compound as red crystals, m.p. 154-155 °C.

b) 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-6-methoxyimino-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepine

A solution of 5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-6-methanesulfonyloxy-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2- b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepine (0.3g, 0.75 mmol), methoxylamine hydrochloride (0.15g, 1.8 mmol) and diisopropylethylamine (0.3g, 2 mmol) in methylene chloride was stirred at room temperature for 4 days. The organic phase was washed with water, dried, and filtered. The solution was concentrated in vacuo and the residue was chromatographed over silica with 20% ethyl acetate/hexane to give 0.07 g of the title compound, m.p. 164-166° C.

Example 77

5,11-Dihydro-6H-11-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-thione

A mixture of 5.0 g (18.77 mmol) of 5,11-Dihydro-6H-11-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-dipyrido [3,2-b:2′,3′-e]-[1,4]diazepin-6-one and 3.8 g (9.40 mmol) of p-methoxyphenylthienophosphine sulphide dimer (Lawesson's reagent) was refluxed in 100 ml of toluene for 2.5 hrs. The solution was cooled to room temperature and was allowed to stand overnight. The toluene was removed by downward distillation and chromatography of the residue over flash silica gel (Methylene chloride/ethyl acetate - 6:1) gave a yellow oil which solidified on standing. Recrystallization from ethyl ether/petroleum ether gave a bright yellow solid which was dried 12 hrs. in high vacuum at 80° C, 1.7 g (32.0%, mp = 189-194° C.

Anal.	C	H	N	S
Cal'd	63.81	5.00	19.84	11.35
Found	63.75	5.10	19.88	11.24

EXAMPLE A

Capsules or Tablets			
A-1		A-2	
Ingredients	Quantity	Ingredients	Quantity
Compound of Ex.12	250 mg	Compound of Ex.12	50 mg
Starch	160 mg	Dicalcium Phosphate	160 mg
Microcrys. Cellulose	90 mg	Microcrys. Cellulose	90 mg
Na Starch Glycolate	10 mg	Stearic acid	5 mg
Magnesium Stearate	2 mg	Sodium Starch Glycolate	10 mg
Fumed colloidal silica	1 mg	Fumed colloidal silica	1 mg

The compound of Example 12 is blended into a powder mixture with the premixed excipient materials as identified above with the exception of the lubricant. The lubricant is then blended in and the resulting blend compressed into tablets or filled into hard gelatin capsules.

EXAMPLE B

Parenteral Solutions	
Ingredients	Quantity
Compound of Example 12	500mg
Tartaric acid	1.5g
Benzyl Alcohol	0.1% by weight
Water for injection	q.s. to 100ml

The excipient materials are mixed with the water and thereafter the compound of Example 2 is added. Mixing is continued until the solution is clear. The pH of this solution is adjusted to 3.0 and is then filtered into the appropriate vials or ampoules and sterilized by autoclaving.

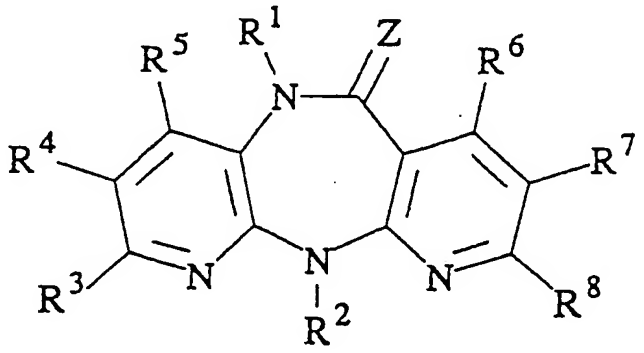
EXAMPLE C

Nasal Solutions	
Ingredients	Quantity
Compound of Example 12	100mg
Citric acid	1.92g
Benzalkonium chloride	0.025% by weight
EDTA	0.1 % by weight
Polyvinylalcohol	10% by weight
Water	q.s. to 100ml

The excipient materials are mixed with the water and thereafter the compound of Example 12 is added and mixing is continued until the solution is clear. The pH of this solution is adjusted to 4.0 and is then filtered into the appropriate vials or ampoules.

Claims

1. A compound of the formula I



(I)

wherein,

Z is oxygen, sulfur, =NCN, or a group of the formula =NOR^9 wherein R^9 is alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms;

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and 1 to 3 fluorine atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, mono- or di-halovinyl, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, aminoethyl,

mono- or di-alkylaminoethyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyloxy- or alkynyloxycarbonyl wherein each alkenyl or alkynyl moiety contains 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxy, alkyloxy of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, aminocarbonylmethyl, or cyanoalkyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^2 is hydrogen (with the proviso that R^1 is not hydrogen), alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms and 1 to 3 fluorine atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, oxetanyl, thietanyl, tetrahydrofuranyl or tetrahydrothienyl, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, cyano, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkyloxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms; and,

one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 6 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminocarbonyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), a group of the formula $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido or carboxyl, with the other two substituents being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,

two of R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently alkyl or hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen or a group of the formula $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen or methyl; or,

R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each hydrogen;

one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 6 carbon atoms, alkoxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, a group of the formula $-NR^{12}R^{13}$, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido or carboxyl, with the other two substituents being hydrogen; or,

two of R^6, R^7 and R^8 are independently alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen or a group of the formula $-NR^{12}R^{13}$, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen; or,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen; and,

R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12} and R^{13} are each independently hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenylmethyl of alkynylmethyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), mono- or dihydroxyalkylmethyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyoxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxy, alkyloxyethyl or alkylthioethyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms, aminoalkylmethyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or dialkylaminoalkylmethyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 or 2 carbon atoms, or alkanoyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms; or,

R^{10} and R^{11}, and R^{12} and R^{13}, together with the nitrogen atoms between them, respectively and independently form azetidin-1-yl or a 5, 6 or 7-membered ring which is either saturated or unsaturated, which optionally contains up to one additional heteroatom which may be selected from O, S or N, or which optionally contains in place of a carbon atom a group of the formula $=NR^{14}$ wherein R^{14} is hydrogen or alkyl or 1 to 2 carbon atoms, and which ring is optionally and independently substituted with hydroxymethyl, aminomethyl, 1 to 4 methyl groups and 1 to 2 hydroxy groups;

subject to the proviso that when

a) Z is oxygen or sulphur

b) R^2 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkinyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, phenyl (optionally substituted by alkyl or alkoxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkoxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 5 carbon atoms,

c) i) R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen or
ii) one of R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 or 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkoxy or alkylthio of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of up to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, amino, aminoalkyl of up to 4 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, halogen, cyano, nitro, azido, or carboxyl, and the remaining five of R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen, or
iii) R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each independently hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided at least one is hydrogen, or one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is butyl with the remaining two being hydrogen and R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each independently hydrogen or alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, provided at least one is hydrogen, or
one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is butyl with the remaining two being hydrogen,
then R^1 cannot be
hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkinyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by methyl, methoxy or halogen), alkanoyl containing 2 or 3 carbon atoms, alkoxyalkyl or alkylthio alkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms;
and compounds of formula I wherein Z is oxygen and
i) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl and either
R^7 is azido, amino or nitro and R^3 to R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^3 is ethylamino or diethylamino and R^4 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^6 and R^8 are methyl and R^3 to R^5 and R^7 are hydrogen, or
R^3 and R^4 are methyl and R^5 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
R^5 is methyl and R^3, R^4, R^6, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
ii) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl, t-butyl, s-butyl or isopropyl and R^3 to R^8 are hydrogen, or
iii) R^1 and R^2 are methoxymethyl, R^5 is methyl and R^3, R^4 and R^6, R^7 and R^8 are hydrogen, or
iv) R^1 is hydrogen, R^2 is ethyl and R^3 to R^8 are hydrogen:
and compounds of Formula I wherein Z is sulfur and either a) R^2 is ethyl, R^3 and R^5 are both methyl and R^1, R^4 and R^6 to R^8 are hydrogen, or b) R^1 is methyl, R^2 is ethyl, R^3 is methoxy and R^4 to R^8 are hydrogen or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

2. A compound of formula I, as set forth in claim 1, wherein,
Z is oxygen, sulfur or a group of the formula $=NOR^9$ wherein R^9 is alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms;
R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, cyclopropyl, alkenylmethyl or alkynylmethyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms, 2-halo-2-propen-1-yl, alkanoyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cyanoalkyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms;
R^2 is hydrogen (with the proviso that R^1 is not hydrogen), alkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, fluoroalkyl of 1 to 5 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, oxetanyl, thietanyl, alkenylmethyl or alkynylmethyl of 3 to 5 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyl of 2 to 5 carbon atoms, aryl or arylmethyl (wherein the aryl moiety is phenyl, thienyl or furanyl, which is either unsubstituted or substituted by alkyl or alkyloxy of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyl or halogen), or alkyloxycarbonylmethyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms;
one of R^3, R^4 and R^5 is alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkenyl or alkynyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, trihalomethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylthioalkyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonylalkyl wherein the alkyl moieties each contain 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkylsulfinyl or alkylsulfonyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyl of 2 to 4 carbon atoms, alkyloxycarbonyl wherein the alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, aminoalkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, mono- or di-alkylaminoalkyl wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 4 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the other two substituents being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,
two of R^3, R^4 and R^5 are independently alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-

yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the remaining substituent being hydrogen, methyl or chloro; or,

R^3, R^4 and R^5 are each hydrogen;

one of R^6, R^7 and R^8 is alkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, vinyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxyalkyl of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 2 carbon atoms, hydroxyalkyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, alkanoyloxy of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bs(2-hydroxyethyl)amino, N,N-bis(2-methoxyethyl)amino, or halogen, with the other two substituents being hydrogen; or,

R^6, R^7 and R^8 are each hydrogen;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

3. A compound of formula I, as set forth in claim 1, wherein,

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms or allyl;

R^2 is alkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cycloalkyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, alkyloxy or alkylthio of 1 to 3 carbon atoms, chloro, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 3 carbon atoms, allylamino, azetidin-1-yl, pyrrol-1-yl, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, pyrazol-1-yl, pyrazolin-1-yl, pyrazolidin-1-yl, imidazol-1-yl, imidazolin-1-yl, imidazolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl, morpholin-1-yl, (4-methyl)piperazin-1-yl, piperazin-1-yl, N,N-bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino;

R^4 is hydrogen, methyl or chloro;

R^5 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, chloro, or trifluoromethyl;

R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen; and,

R^7 is hydrogen or amino;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

4. A compound of formula I, as set forth in claim 1, wherein,

Z is oxygen or sulfur;

R^1 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 3 carbon atoms or allyl;

R^2 is alkyl of 2 to 3 carbon atoms, or cycloalkyl of 3 to 4 carbon atoms;

R^3 is hydrogen, methyl, chloro, methoxy, ethoxy, amino, mono- or di-alkylamino wherein each alkyl moiety contains 1 to 2 carbon atoms, allylamino, allylmethylamino, pyrrolin-1-yl, pyrrolidin-1-yl, tetrahydropyridin-1-yl, piperidin-1-yl or morpholin-1-yl;

R^4 is hydrogen;

R^5 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, chloro, or trifluoromethyl;

R^6 and R^8 are hydrogen; and

R^7 is hydrogen or amino;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2,4-dimethyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

2-chloro-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or - thione;

2-chloro-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

8-amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

8-amino-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-5-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-5-methyl-2-(N-pyrrolidino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′- e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;

5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;
11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;
8-amino-5,11-dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione;
8-amino-11-cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]-diazepin-6-one or -thione;
and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

6. 11-Cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

7. 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

8. 11-Cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-4-methyl-2-(N,N-dimethylamino)-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

9. 5,11-Dihydro-11-ethyl-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

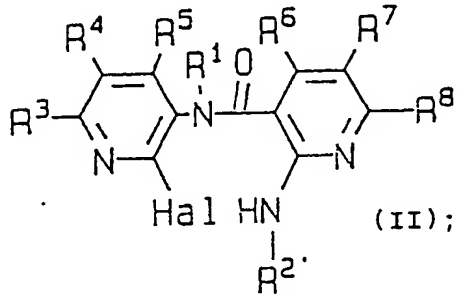
10. 11-Cyclopropyl-5,11-dihydro-2-methoxy-4-methyl-6H-dipyrido[3,2-b:2′,3′-e][1,4]diazepin-6-one or -thione, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

11. A method for preventing or treating HIV-1 infection which comprises administering, to a human being exposed to or infected by HIV-1, a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I, as set forth in claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof.

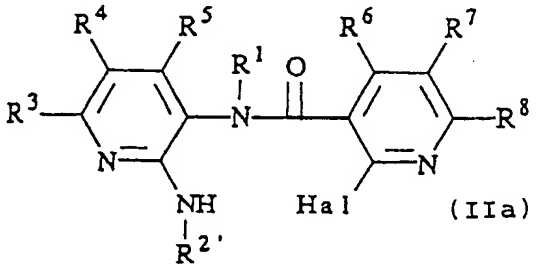
12. A pharmaceutical composition suitable for preventing or treating HIV-1 infection which comprises a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula I, as set forth in claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. A process for preparing a compound as defined in any of claims 1 to 10, said process comprising at least one of the following steps:

(A) (for preparing compounds of Formula I wherein R^2 is other than hydrogen and Z is oxygen) cyclizing a carboxylic acid amide of general Formula II or IIa



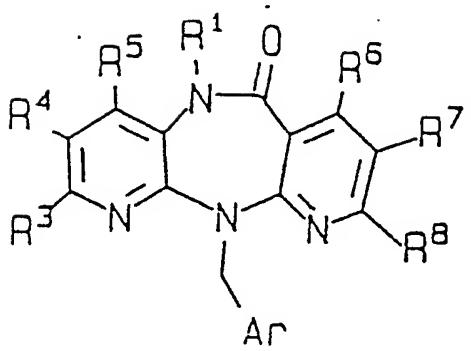
(II);



(IIa)

(wherein R^1, R^3 to R^8 are as hereinbefore defined, $R^{2'}$ is as defined for R^2 with the exception of hydrogen, and Hal represents a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom);

(B) (for producing compounds of Formula I wherein R^2 is hydrogen and Z is oxygen) hydrolytically cleaving an arylmethyl group from a compound of Formula III

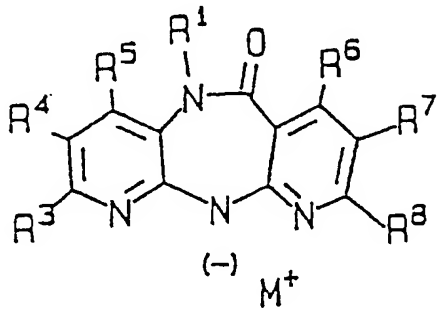


(III)

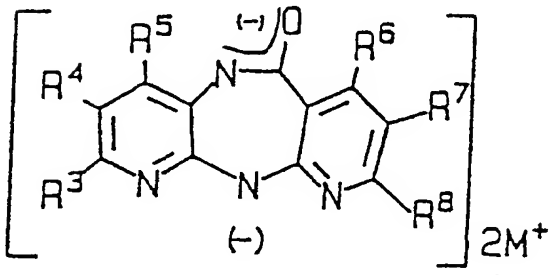
(wherein R^1, R^3 to R^8 are as hereinbefore defined and Ar represents an aryl group);
(C) (for preparing compounds of Formula I wherein R^1 is other than hydrogen and Z is oxygen) converting a compound of Formula I wherein R^1 is hydrogen and Z is oxygen into a corresponding 5-alkali or alkaline earth metal compound and subsequently reacting said alkali or alkaline earth metal compound with a compound of Formula V

$R^{1'}X$ (V)

(wherein $R^{1'}$ is as hereinbefore defined for R^1 with the exception of hydrogen and X is the radical of a reactive ester, a halogen atom, a group $OSO_2OR^{1'}$, a methanesulphonyloxy or ethanesulphonyloxy group or an aromatic sulphonyloxy group);
(C′) (for preparing compounds of Formula I wherein R^1 is other than hydrogen and Z is oxygen)
by reacting a compound of Formula I wherein R^1 is hydrogen and Z is oxygen with a compound of Formula V (as defined above) in the presence of an amine or an alkali metal carbonate or bicarbonate;
(D) (for preparing a compound of Formula I wherein Z is oxygen)
converting a compound of Formula I wherein R^2 is hydrogen into a corresponding metal salt of Formula VIa or, where R^1 represents hydrogen, VIb



(VIa)



(VIb)

(wherein M represents an alkali metal, such as lithium, sodium, potassium, rubidium or cesium, or M represents the group MgHal+, wherein Hal is chlorine, bromine or iodine) and subsequently alkylating with

a compound of Formula VII

R^2X (VII)

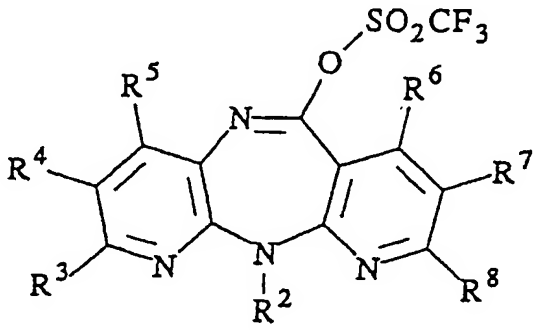
(wherein X is as hereinbefore defined and R^2 is as defined for R^2)

(E) (to prepare a compound of Formula I, wherein Z is sulphur)

reacting a compound of Formula I, wherein Z is oxygen with a sulphurating agent,

(F) (to prepare a compound of formula I wherein R^1 is hydrogen, R^2 to R^8 are as hereinbefore defined and Z is a group of the formula =NCN)

reacting a compound of the formula XI



(XI)

with cyanamide,

(G) (to prepare a compound of formula I wherein R^1 is hydrogen and R^2 to R^8 are as hereinbefore defined and Z is a group of the formula =NOR^9)

reacting a compound of formula XI as defined with an appropriate alkoxylamine (O-alkylhydroxylamine) or salt thereof:

and isolating the compound of Formula I as such or as an acid addition salt thereof.

14. A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition which comprises mixing a compound of Formula I as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

15. A compound of Formula I as set forth in any one of claims 1 to 10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt thereof for use in the treatment or prevention of HIV-Infection.

16. Use of a compound of Formula I or a physiologically acceptable acid addition salt thereof as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10 for the manufacture of a therapeutic agent for combatting HIV-Infection.